

Editorial

Launch of a new journal, beginning of a new era



According to the World Health Organization (WHO), chronic diseases (also called Non-communicable Diseases, NCDs) are of long duration and generally with slow progression. NCDs include mainly cardiovascular diseases, cancers, chronic respiratory diseases and diabetes, and they are the world's most common diseases. A total of 38 million people die from chronic diseases each year, and almost three quarters of these deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries. Cardiovascular diseases account for most NCD deaths, 17.5 million people annually, followed by cancers (8.2 million), respiratory diseases (4 million), and diabetes (1.5 million). More than 14 million people between the ages of 30 and 70 die each year from NCDs. Among them 85% live in developing countries. As the largest developing country, China has a heavy burden of chronic diseases; there are NCDs 576.3 deaths per 100,000 (males 650.6/100,000 and females 508.5/100,000) in China.¹

One of the hottest topics in the past decade in biomedical sciences is translational medicine, which serves as the bridge between basic research and clinical research. Translational medicine is a rapidly growing discipline in biomedical research and aims to expedite the application of discoveries of new diagnostic tools and treatments by using a multi-disciplinary, highly collaborative, “bench-to-bedside” approach.²

To best report progress in chronic diseases and translational research we are starting a new journal, *Chronic Diseases and Translational Medicine* (CDTM, ISSN 2095-882X, CN 10-1249/R). CDTM is owned by the Chinese Medical Association and published by the Chinese Medical Association Publishing House and KeAi (A joint venture of Elsevier and Science Press).

CDTM is an open access journal, and all articles are published on line first and the print version is available quarterly. The categories of articles include Editorials, Original Articles, Reviews, Perspectives, Correspondences, etc. CDTM is dedicated to promoting the transition from basic research to clinical practice, and to providing a forum for communication among basic, translational, and clinical research practitioners and physicians from all relevant disciplines. Subjects covered include cardiovascular disease, metabolism/diabetes/obesity, neuroscience/neurology/psychiatry, cancer, and respiratory disease, et al.

One hundred years ago, 21 Chinese physicians, including Drs. Wu Lien-the (1879–1960), and Yen Fu-ching, *et al*, established the Chinese Medical Association and published the *National Medical Journal of China*. Since then Chinese medical professionals have had their own organization and played an independent role in the medicine development. This year, during the one hundredth anniversary celebration, we launch this new journal, CDTM, and we believe that the CDTM, will play its own role in the future.

References

1. <http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs355/en/>. Accessed on March 1, 2015.
2. Woolf SH. The meaning of translational research and why it matters. *JAMA*. 2008;299:211–213.

Editorial Board of Chronic Diseases and Translational
Medicine, China

17 March 2015

Available online 8 April 2015

Edited by Xiu-Yuan Hao

Peer review under responsibility of Chinese Medical Association.



Production and Hosting by Elsevier on behalf of KeAi